



Winter 2019 Update

“Published reports and current evaluations have shown that *Celebrating Families!*[™](CF!) is effective in improving parenting skills, family relationships, and family communication for parents whose substance use has resulted in involvement with child welfare and dependency courts, which serve as drug courts for parents involved with child welfare system. As a "front end" engagement intervention, CF! is the only intervention that can effectively provide a positive learning experience for parents who might not yet have engaged in treatment, and who have multiple barriers to recovery.” Dr. Ed Cohen, SJSU, Evaluator.



Celebrating Families!™ Nation Wide!

This program has literally saved marriages, radically stopping trauma occurring in the brains of young children and babies in the homes, breaking cycles of addiction and setting a new generation up for success! Thank you Sis and Mary Beth for all the support. Thank you Cabarrus Partnership for Children for making the last 15 weeks possible with your generous financial support. So many WOW moments, new life goals, families healing together from addiction, happy and safe kids and babies!! **Just Breaking News: For** nearly 4 years Cabarrus has worked every week with families and their young children whose homes have been affected by addiction. To honor them and COA Awareness Week, we are starting another *Celebrating Families!*[™] Spanish group this Wednesday night - There is only ONE SPOT left. Help us raise awareness about children of addiction



Honors Toni Welch Torres received the Hope Tribute Award at Constellation Behavioral Health's Miracle breakfast for her years of commitment working to help families dealing with substance use disorders. Toni and her team have provided *Celebrating Families!*[™] for over 1200 families during the past 10 years in California's Santa Clara and Alameda counties.



PPI continues to published papers and offer presentations: Requested papers were submitted by Shirley Sparks Greif to the upcoming Drug Court Review on *Celebrating Families!*[™] *Changing the Odds: Healing Children & Families Impacted by Trauma and Substance Use Disorders* and Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare (CASCW) at the University of Minnesota's School of Social Work in St. Paul, MN. national publication entitled CW360°.

California State Grant from Office of Child Abuse Prevention: PPI is partnering with Community Solutions to coordinate the State Grant awarded from the State of California Health and Human Services Agency, Office of Child Abuse Prevention, to expand the number of sites trained and implementing the CF! model throughout the state over the next two years. Community Solutions is a well-respected behavioral health organization in Santa Clara County,. The project will be led by Melissa Santos who has been an advisor, group leader and national trainer with CF! since 2007. Melissa is the Senior Director of Professional Development and Organizational Initiatives at Community Solutions and is thrilled to be supporting the expansion of the model.

“Partnering with funding from a state level is very exciting! This allows for more visibility across the state as well as funding and coaching to support sites that would not otherwise be able to implement and sustain the program.” Melissa Santos.

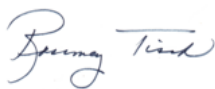
Community Solutions, representing Prevention Partnership International, will be releasing a Request for Qualifications in Spring of 2019 to launch two new *Celebrating Families!*[™] sites, as well as coaching webinars for new and existing sites. If you are an organization serving parents/families at risk for child abuse please contact Melissa to express your interest. (Melissa.Santos@communitysolutions.org, (408) 655-4918 or cell (408) 429-3083. The grant includes a robust evaluation component. This will be led by *CF!*'s lead evaluator, Dr. Ed Cohen from San Jose State University. Dr. Cohen and his team have worked closely with our curriculum and our local sites to further expand our evaluation pool to continue the work of studying our outcomes to ensure that our model is truly transforming families with an increase in protective factors and a decrease in risk factors. We are fortunate to have Dr. Cohen as part of our team, and a part of this state grant project.

Continued to collaborate with our own local providers in Santa Clara County, CA by piloting and evaluating the new Adolescent version for juveniles with Uplift's Addiction Prevention Services (APS) in middle and senior high schools; providing trainings; and creating new materials to be used between *CF!* series based on Risk and Protective Factors for Parisi House on the Hill and other residential treatment facilities with women with children. PPI staff have also created Staff Training on Critical Parenting Skills in Early Childhood, continue to provide training and support for local community based organizations (Uplift Family Services, Parisi House on the Hill, ConXion, and Janus of Santa Cruz).

Dr. Cohen continues to complete the study to increase the size of the evidence-base for *CF!* in collaboration with Uplift Family Services. We are currently waiting for comparison data from Dept. of Families & Children to complete the study.

We greatly appreciate your interest and support of our programs and will keep you posted on our progress. As some of you know there has been an upset in my personal health situation – I have been diagnosed with lymphoma. This is treatable but will take me out of direct leadership for 9 months. Mary Gardner has wonderfully stepped in to cover organization concerns along with the support of the Advisory Team; Melissa Santos is leading the CA project; Toni Torres is taking the lead on the Adolescent Development. Thankfully we had been building a very capable and strong team here!

Sincerely,



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